AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): An image workflow system for use in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document image, comprising:

a workflow control table which stores in advance the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document image; and

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.

2. (previously presented): The system of claim 1, further comprising an input device directly coupled to the image identifying server to supply an operation document as the operation document image into the image identifying server.

3. (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the recognized result is transmitted to the network together with the operation document image in the form of a packet.

4. (original): The system of claim 3, further comprising at least one terminal which includes a destination terminal as the destination and which is coupled to the network.

5.   (original): The system of claim 4, wherein the operation document image is processed on the basis of the operation designated by the recognized result, at the destination terminal which receives the operation document image.

6.   (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document image by using character recognition of an identification code representative of the species when the identification code is included in the operation document image.

7.   (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document image by recognizing an image pattern particular to the operation document image when an identification code which stands for the species is not included in the operation document image.

8.   (original): The system of claim 5, wherein the destination terminal automatically activates a program performing the corresponding operation to the recognized result when the terminal receives the operation document image.

9.   (original): The system of claim 3, wherein the image identifying server transmits the packet to a plurality of destination terminals simultaneously when the plurality of destination terminals are associated with the identified species in the workflow control table.

10.   (original): The system of claim 3, wherein the packet is transmitted from a first terminal to a second terminal after processing of the packet at the first terminal according to the

destination terminals specified in the packet when the plurality of destination terminals are associated with the single identified species in the workflow control table.

11.   (previously presented): An image workflow system for use in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) extracted from an operation document which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document, comprising:

a workflow control table which stores the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document; and

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document from the operation document image to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result to the network,

wherein the image identifying server observes efficiency of a plurality of terminals and selects one of the terminals which have the lowest efficiency as the destination terminal when the plurality of terminals are associated with the single identification species in the workflow control table.

12.   (previously presented): A method of managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document image, the method comprising the steps of:

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storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document image; and

identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.

13.   (previously presented): A computer readable medium which stores a program operable for managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document image, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document image; and

identifying the species of the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result together with the operation document image to the network.

14.   (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the destination is an IP address.

15.   (currently amended): An image workflow system for use in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) which is featured by a species, a

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~~destination~~ plurality of destinations, and <u>at least one</u> operation <u>for each destination</u> to be handled

to the operation document image, comprising:

a workflow control table which stores in advance the species, the ~~destination~~ <u>destinations</u>,

and the <u>at least one</u> operation <u>for each destination</u> assigned to ~~each~~ <u>the</u> operation document

image<u>, wherein the destinations are ordered to define a predetermined path for transferring the</u>

<u>operation document image</u>;

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document image

to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species,

to automatically recognize the corresponding ~~destination~~ <u>ordered destinations</u> and ~~operation~~ <u>the</u>

<u>one or more operations for each of the destinations</u>, and to transmit a recognized result together

with the operation document image to the network; and

~~at least one terminal which includes a destination terminal~~ <u>a plurality of destination</u>

<u>terminals</u> as the ~~destination and which is~~ <u>destinations are</u> coupled to the network;

~~wherein the recognized result is transmitted to the network together with the operation~~

~~document image in the form of a packet;~~

wherein the operation document image is processed on the basis of the ~~operation~~ <u>one or</u>

<u>more operations</u> designated by the recognized result, at ~~the~~ <u>each</u> destination terminal which

receives the operation document image <u>in the predetermined order</u>; and

wherein ~~the~~ each destination terminal automatically activates ~~a~~ at least one program

performing the corresponding ~~operation~~ one or more operations to the recognized result when the

destination terminal receives the operation document image.

16.   (currently amended): ~~The system of claim 15,~~ An image workflow system for use

in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) which

is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document

image, comprising:

a workflow control table which stores in advance the species, the destination, and the

operation assigned to each operation document image;

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document image

to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species,

to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a

recognized result together with the operation document image to the network; and

at least one terminal which includes a destination terminal as the destination and which is

coupled to the network;

wherein the recognized result is transmitted to the network together with the operation

document image in the form of a packet;

wherein the operation document image is processed on the basis of the operation

designated by the recognized result, at the destination terminal which receives the operation

document image;

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wherein the destination terminal automatically activates a program performing the

corresponding operation to the recognized result when the terminal receives the operation

document image; and

wherein the image identifying server observes efficiency of a plurality of terminals and a

terminal having the lowest efficiency is selected as the destination terminal when the plurality of

terminals are associated with the single identification species in the workflow control table.